

KATRINA'S TESTIMONY

About a year ago a man named Emmanuel came to the church with his wife and cousin. He wanted to be baptized. This was the first time I met them. Emmanuel has such a sweet spirit about him and his wife is just adorable and very quiet. We didn't talk much because they had made a long drive in to the church and had to get back home



Since that day we have been blessed to have church and fellowship with Emmanuel and Katrina a few more times. Each time they come it is at least a 4 hour drive one way. That is a blessing for us and it is a sacrifice to God. When you make sacrifices like that God will bless you for it. He sees the effort; He sees your heart.

This January they came and Katrina was sharing about some pain she was having and how hard it had been just to get her boots on. She said she had arthritis in her knee and big toe and that it took at least an hour to get her shoe on. She told me her toe was practically laying sideways. She was having pain and in pain a lot. I didn't really know the depth of her pain and because I have pain all the time I thought her situation was sort of like mine. I did pray for healing that day at the close of the message but had intended to anoint her, lay hands on her, and pray for her specifically after service.

We got to talking and fellowshiping and I forgot about praying for her and then I remembered but had forgotten again before they left. I had blessed and prayed over some oil for them to use for anointing oil at home, so they did have that with them.

A little more than a week later Emmanuel wrote this:

Katrina and I anointed her left leg and prayed over her leg she's walking a lot better she had been limping and tossing and turning in bed. She would get up and sleep on the couch so she wouldn't wake me up, bless her heart. Last night she slept a lot better, Praise God.

About 6 days later on February 4th, Emmanuel sends this message: Katrina's left big toe started hurting pretty bad this morning. We are at the emergency room.

Later that day: She has a contusion and bursted blood vessels or vessel. She was given pain meds and a shoe to wear till her toe heals. We're home now, looks like she will get some well needed rest.

We were praying with them and so was the prayer team. We were praying for complete healing and restoration and for all pain to be gone in Jesus' name.

February 16th Katrina sent a message: Thank you, thank you, thank you for praying for us. It made my heart full.

Update on March 11th: Hey Pastor Cherie Katrina has a blockage in her left thigh. She is going to have a stint put in on the 19th.



Her left big toe has gangrene and is in pain. Her Dr's won't do anything to her toe till the stint is put in. Katrina has a foot Dr. appointment on the 13th and on the 15th we're going to have some prep test done for the stint.

We were on our way to Texarkana on the 8th and I received a text from Scott that was right on time, for Katrina mostly, but for me too that was encouraging and encouragement for us both. Let Scott know I said thank you.

Scott sends out a daily text with Scripture and it ministered to them in the middle of that storm. That was God touching their hearts, and comforting them and strengthening them and reminding them that He is with them. Even as I typed this out I was covered with chills from the Holy Spirit.

Update on March 19th: Katrina made it through the placing of the stint in her thigh, Praise God. She's asleep now and looks to be resting well. There was a

ninety-eight percent blockage. We haven't gotten to talk much yet, she is still sedated. I feel her Dr.'s took great care of her.

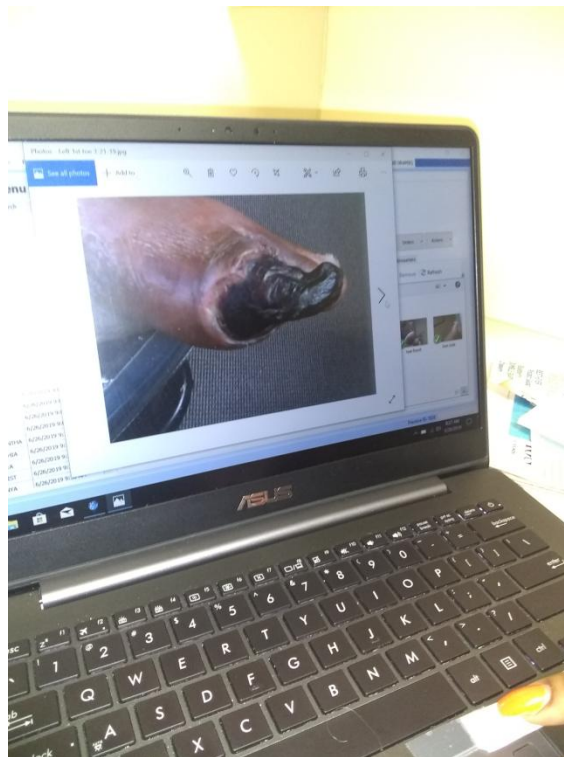
Thank you Pastor Cherie, Scott and Kennedy for you alls prayers and the Prayer Team.

From Katrina on March 30th: Just wanted to let you know that your lesson today was right on time hope to visit soon. Love y'all, keep working for Jesus. Our reward is up there not down here.

Here she is being a blessing and encouragement to us.

I wrote back asking how her toe was and how she was doing. We had continued to pray for her and Emmanuel.

Here is what she wrote: I'm ok, they had to take my toe.



This computer image is showing how bad the gangrene was.

She said: But pastor, this trial will be my testimony. What the devil means to destroy us, our Father can turn it around and bless us. I will continue to claim victory! God is good and I'll tell it everywhere I go!

Now look at that, she was encouraging me about the message and to keep on for Christ and here she has just had her toe amputated. I had no idea. What a strong woman of God!

They got to come and be with us at church April the 28th and Katrina still had her medical walking boot on. She was about to be able to stop wearing it in a few days and then would shortly be returning to work.

She got saved when she was 12 years old. She said she'd never forget it. She loves the Lord and she had been praying for 10 years for her husband Emmanuel to be saved. Guess what, Emmanuel got saved! That is another testimony to share.

God does answer prayer! He loves us and as long as we love Him and seek Him He will never forsake us.

Katrina shared that it was not easy losing her toe. She had moments of being down, self pity and all the emotions that come with going through such a hard thing as losing a part of your body. But she came through it and with tears in her eyes she said: **I AM STILL HERE!!! I WILL TELL IT EVERYWHERE I GO FOR GOD'S GLORY!**

The devil did not win. This is a victory for God.

Do you see that? How many people would see it that way? She is standing bold for Christ Jesus! Think if it wasn't caught in time, she might have been gone. Her husband and family and friends and all those that love her would be without her. **BUT SHE IS STILL HERE!!!** She is here to continue her life with her wonderful husband and to testify and keep working for the LORD's Kingdom!



She may not have a toe but that is just cosmetic. I can only imagine what a hard thing it is to lose your big toe, especially being a woman. But to still be here making a difference and sharing her life and encouraging others and praying for them and growing stronger and stronger in the LORD, by her husband's side is everything and continuing to work for the Kingdom of God.



Look what a cute shoe she has on and you can't even tell there is a toe missing! She has been released by her dr. and doesn't have to go back. She is all healed up. Praise God for that good report.

Let Katrina be an example and an encouragement to you. No matter the situation, even if it looks like defeat, that is not how God sees it. When you are His, it is always a V I C T O R Y! as long as you go on for Him. How many have gotten angry at God because He could have done this or that but didn't? satan used that test, that trial or hard situation to drive a wedge between them and God and they got angry and bitter and left God. It takes the Holy Spirit to go through a trial like this and keep standing.

I can tell you the devil hates this kind of testimony. It is just eating him up that first of all he wasn't able to kill her, second of all that she just didn't stay depressed and give up or get angry at God and walk away, and third, that she is still standing strong in Christ!

Listen to her words again: **I'M OK, THEY HAD TO TAKE MY TOE. BUT PASTOR, THIS TRIAL WILL BE MY TESTIMONY. WHAT THE DEVIL MEANS TO DESTROY US, OUR FATHER CAN TURN IT AROUND AND BLESS US. I WILL CONTINUE TO CLAIM VICTORY! GOD IS GOOD AND I'LL TELL IT EVERYWHERE I GO!**

Job 23:10 - But He knoweth the way that I take: *when* He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

What happened to Katrina? What does Scripture say happened?

1 Peter 1:7 – That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

I'm proud of her. God bless you Katrina, strong woman of God! Thank you so much for sharing this powerful testimony with us.